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PRICE FIFTY CENTS



# Merman & Mermaid



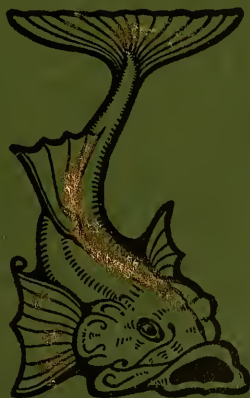
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LIBRETTO

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GRAND  
OPERATIC  
PHANTASMAGORIA

(In Opera and Pantomime)



LYON & HEALY  
Chicago

CARL FISCHER  
New York

WORDS AND MUSIC BY  
ERWIN E. HARDER

LOUIS B. MALECKI  
Chicago

W. J. DYER & CO.  
St. Paul



# Merman & Mermaid

*Grand Operatic  
Phantasmagoria*

(In Opera and Pantomime)

8059a-426  
**LIBRETTO**

WORDS AND MUSIC

BY

ERWIN E. HARDER



*Prologue*

The Depths of Mystery.

Open Sea. The Hurricane. Ship Sinks.

(Ocean's Bottom, Curious Denizens)

ACT I—Two Scenes

ACT II—Two Scenes

*Epilogue*

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PRICE FIFTY CENTS

Written in Denver, Colorado

922 South Ogden Avenue

August, 1914

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Press of  
MAYER & MILLER COMPANY  
525 S. DEARBORN STREET  
CHICAGO

*Ervin E. Harde*  
*Dec. 10. 1914*

YRABLL OUBBN  
BHT 30  
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# Merman & Mermaid

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

In Opera and Pantomime.

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## *Cast of Characters*

- Curious fish of the sea . . . . . Prologue—(Owondlo and Neptune)
- Owondlo, Merman—Tenor.
- Fleehion, Mermaid—Soprano.
- Neptune, King of Sea—Baritone.
- Reignall, King of Spirit Vapor World—Bass.
- Spiritual Advisers (four). (King Reignall's Staff) { Tenors and Bass.
- Spirits (four). (Owondlo and Fleehion's Parents) { Tenor. Bass. Soprano. Contralto.
- Chorus of Spirits. (Vapor World)
- Ghosts of ship's lost souls. (Ballet Dance)
- Ghosts { Two Stokers—Bass.
- Chambermaid—Contralto.
- Headwaiter and assistants. (Tenor)
- Two Detectives—Bass.
- Major Booth—Tenor.
- Captain—Baritone.
- English Bartender—Tenor.
- Messenger Boy—Alto.
- 1st Sea Nymph—Soprano.
- 2nd Sea Nymph—Soprano.
- 3rd Sea Nymph—Alto.
- 4th Sea Nymph—Contralto.
- 5th Sea Nymph—Alto.

# MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

Words and Music by  
Erwin E. Harder.

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## *Prologue*

(THE ARGUMENT)

Two orphans, a young man and a young lady, not acquainted with each other, have left their home, and boarded the great liner, Gigantic, bound for the New World, each in search of a lover and a fortune.

The first scene, the prologue, is open sea. And then near the sunken ship, Gigantic. In the North Atlantic Ocean opposite New Foundland.

Curious fish and strange deep sea denizens of all kinds are swimming about. After a lapse of about seven minutes, during which time mysterious music plays on, a fish of golden color suddenly takes on convulsions and coughs out a living being (strange sea life) transformed, with double tail and water breathing gills, which had been previously swallowed by this deep sea fish.

King Neptune blesses this curious being of the sea, and names him Owondlo (Merman), and tells him to be brave and seek for a weapon to protect himself from dangerous enemies of the sea.

# MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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## Act I—Scene 1.

### THE ARGUMENT.

Owondlo searches the staterooms and other places of the Gigantic for a weapon. While he begins his search he has visions, and also sees ghosts dance before him. Then the captain of the ship appears, waiters, messenger boy, two stokers, a vision of his former sweetheart left in England. He (Owondlo) searches on, converses with the bartender's ghost, and two detectives who are guarding the ship's treasure. He sees five real Sea Nymphs, and watches them as they converse and make dresses from sea-weeds and plants, golden chains, gold rings and diamond rings from the ship's lost souls.

The Nymphs converse with each other, one of them apparently is in love, while one Nymph tells her to lay a golden ring on the Magic Table Rock in the Garden of the Gods, in Nature's Submarine Garden. She wishes that the sea, by magic, may bring her a lover in her own image. Owondlo eagerly listens, and talks to himself, but at times he becomes frightened at a strange noise (seemingly of an earthquake or eruption). But one Nymph tells an inquisitive companion that it is only a monster fish, that measures in length two miles or more, gritting his teeth and scolding. This frightens Owondlo, who wishes now that he could have a spear or sword. At times Owondlo is almost tempted to go within, as the Nymphs almost charm him.

Suddenly Owondlo hides in a stateroom as one of the Nymphs leaves and goes to the Garden of the Gods, to place a diamond ring on the Magic Table Rock.

# MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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## THE ARGUMENT.

Owondlo meets Major Booth in a stateroom, who asks what he seeks here, and Owondlo tells him, a weapon to protect himself from dangerous enemies of the sea. Then Major Booth loans him his sword, and Owondlo thanks him and bids him farewell.

## Scene 2.

Owondlo enters near the Magic Table Rock in the Garden of the Gods, and sees petrified sea currants, fossils, toadstools, etc. He declares that some foolish ghost had tried to feed the Gods in the Garden on petrified food. He picks up and keeps the diamond ring, just then a rumbling noise startles the sea with vibrations again.

Then suddenly appears a large gold fish which comes closer and closer, Owondlo takes his sword and slays the fish, whereupon Fleehion, the Mermaid, issues out just where he severed the fish. Owondlo is dazed and soon holds his bride-to-be in his arms. King Neptune blesses both as curtain falls.

End of Act I.

# MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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## Act II — Scene 1.

### THE ARGUMENT.

Owondlo and Fleehion fifteen years later, in Nature's Submarine Garden, feasting and making love, they lived in caves and sunken vessels, and had twenty children born to them, who are in the Submarine Garden picking fruit. Owondlo, who had been informed of the dangers in the sea by King Neptune, had also taken possession of a life boat, which was covered with sea shells of peculiar shapes and colors.

Owondlo tells Fleehion, who fears that the treasure vaults are being ransacked by sea Nymphs, that he had locked all the doors in all sunken vessels they have been in, and that the fish have lost their color of gold. Their magic and treachery appeared to have vanished. No Nymphs had been seen since her birth. Then Fleehion suddenly becomes infatuated with an oval sea plant and its colors, and enters the plant to reap its fruit, whereupon the plant suddenly closes about her, just as Owondlo warns her. Owondlo immediately severs the plant at the bottom, and rescues Fleehion in the nick of time. Owondlo hurries to the sea shell boat, assisting Fleehion, recovering from a fainting spell.

This incident caused so much commotion from nearby sea plants, who were angry and frightened, and weeping, that curious fish swam about and threatened Owondlo and Fleehion's lives.

Owondlo's boat was fastened to a sea plant by sea plant rope; fish gnawed the rope apart and their boat just floats away in a sea current as curtain falls.

# MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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## Act II — Scene 2.

Their boat, which, after having entered a river, passed through a mountain from the Submarine World into a new world called "The Vapor World."

Here they are questioned by King Reignall, ruler of Supreme. (Spirits.)

The bodies lost at sea, only their spirits can enter this Vapor World.

Owondlo and Fleehion breathe through their nostrils now, and anchor their boat. King Reignall summons his spiritual staff and they lead Owondlo and Fleehion to the Spiritual Dungeon, where their lives are threatened. Their parents see Owondlo and Fleehion while they sleep; and when they awaken converse with them.

Then suddenly King Reignall appears and condemns their parents (spirits) to be banished into the Spiritual Dungeon forever. They plead. Then Owondlo and Fleehion flee from the Spiritual Dungeon, which is made of vapor, created by the Supreme Being.

The vapor walls of the Spiritual Dungeon were strong enough to permit Owondlo and Fleehion to rest on, but now they have to keep moving or else drop into depths unknown. Now Owondlo and Fleehion tell King Reignall that they will tear the Spiritual Dungeon apart and destroy it forever. Thereupon God appears and warns Owondlo and Fleehion to be careful.

King Reignall, surprised, summons his army of spirits, commanding Owondlo and Fleehion to leave this sacred sphere. They refuse to leave, and tell King Reignall to release their parents (spirits) from within their confounded dungeon.

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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Suddenly King Reignall orders a charge on the enemy, but Owondlo and Fleehion, being immune, are not molested or hurt in the least, as spirits pass through and about them. King Reignall is dumfounded now. The almighty warns all to be careful and begone. Then King Reignall proclaims their parents sacred and free. All sing praises of love and joy.

Owondlo and Fleehion enter their boat and leave for Submarine World.

End of Act II.

### *Epilogue*

In the Submarine World.

Here Owondlo and Fleehion seek their children. After a hopeless search they die in each others arms, lamenting for their children, at the very mouth of cave where their children and grandchildren are.

Curious Sea Nymphs appear, their curiosity is aroused, they blow their magic horns as they leave.

The sea echoes forth, Merman and Mermaids soon arrive, who begin to think that the disappearing Nymphs have entrapped their parents souls to the Garden of the Gods.

All lament and sing praises of love.

King Neptune appears and blesses all.

THE END.

# MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

(In Opera and Pantomime)

Words and Music by

**Erwin E. Harder.**

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## *Prologue.*

The Hurricane—Music—Open sea.

(Ship sinks)

“The Depths of Mystery.”

(Ocean’s bottom, curious denizens)

(A Fish goes into convulsions and coughs out a transformed human being, named by King Neptune, Owondlo.)

OWONDLO.

(Merman)

What does this mean?  
How came I here,  
In this mysterious sphere?  
Great God! a sunken ship.  
Great Lord! that name, Gigantic,  
Once the largest ship afloat.  
'Tis strange, these fish about me,  
The almighty creator spared my life,  
Transformed me in the living sea.

NEPTUNE.

(Draws near with scepter in hand)

I name thee Owondlo,  
Twice blessed are ye,  
For I, King Neptune, command the sea,  
Be brave and seek ye a weapon,  
For the ocean has enemies  
That your life will threaten.  
'Tis in the depths you are confined,  
About you lay gardens of the sea.  
Now farewell, I must be off,  
As my duties of the sea,  
Are calling me flee, flee.

(Trumpets and Horns muted as Neptune hurries away)

OWONDLO.

Thrice blessed art thou,  
King Neptune of the sea.

(Curtain)



# MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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## Act I — Scene 1.

(Interior of sunken ship Gigantic)

OWONDLO.

I must search,  
I must search  
This gigantic ship  
For a weapon,  
As enemies of the sea,  
My life do threaten.

---

(As Owondlo enters the ship's rooms, ghosts appear and dance before him.)

(Music—Ballet Dance)

(Ghosts of ship's lost souls)

(Captain appears—Ghost)

OWONDLO.

How mysterious? How strange,  
I hail thee, Captain.

CAPTAIN.

What seekest thou?

OWONDLO.

Seeking a weapon.  
The sea has enemies  
That my life will threaten.

CAPTAIN.

(Ghost)

Very well, very well,  
Be quiet as you seek,  
For it's late in the night.

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(Owondlo opens a door and passes quietly through halls. Suddenly a waiter (ghost) comes with a large tray of eatables and wine. He stumbles over the carcass of a dead fish. This noise awakens other ghosts, who appear.)

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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HEAD WAITER.

(Ghost)

What now! this mess  
Has happened here  
And disturbed our  
Peaceful slumber.

TWO STOKERS.

(Ghosts)

(Black faces and dressed in overalls)

1ST STOKER.

How about my lunch?  
Now twenty minutes overdue.

2ND STOKER.

Yes, its twice now  
You've missed by extra pail.

(Beer)

---

(Suddenly a curious fish appears and snaps at them; they quickly close the door and disappear below.)

(Owondlo searches on.)

ENGLISH BARTENDER.

(Ghost)

Hey there; stranger!  
I welcome thee.  
These beastly fish  
Never let me free.

(Owondlo sees fish in a bar room; lying around as if in a drunken stupor)

OWONDLO.

Well of all things queer,  
These deep sea fish  
Got drunk on beer.  
I'll close this door  
And keep those fish within,  
While I hunt for sword and spear.

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(Owondlo enters another stateroom; he has a vision of his former sweetheart of England.)

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### OWONDLO.

All the strange things  
That this world brings,  
Can it be that I  
Have passed into a trance.  
For life has left  
A problem to solve,  
That I may find perchance.  
'Tis now I dream of her.  
I fancy she is near.  
What shall this life  
For me present,  
With no companion here.

---

(Owondlo dozes off to sleep)

### CHAMBERMAID.

(Ghost)

Seek ye onward,  
And ye shall find  
That sea life here,  
Has 'witched mankind.

### CAPTAIN.

(Ghost passes by)

Hi ho! stranger,  
Awake ye from slumber.  
There's danger near.

### MESSENGER BOY.

(Ghost passes by)

You're wanted in dining room number five.

### OWONDLO.

(Awakens)

Where am I?  
Me thinks I am not real.

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(Owondlo searches on, looks in treasure vault)

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### TWO DETECTIVES.

(Ghosts)

I welcome thee,  
What seekest thou?

### OWONDLO.

A weapon for defense  
From dangers of the sea.

### TWO DETECTIVES.

These treacherous fish  
Living round this vessel,  
Had long lain await  
Devouring our bodies.  
There swims one now  
With a harvest of gold,  
Taken from the vessel's hold.

### OWONDLO.

The sea works wonders  
That plays in magic.  
For I once, too,  
Was swallowed whole,  
By treacherous fish  
Around this ship,  
Mysteriously transformed my soul.

### TWO DETECTIVES.

How strange! How strange  
Be the mysteries in the sea.  
How strange! How strange  
Be the mysteries in the sea.

### OWONDLO.

I'll close this door.  
Rest in peace forever more.

(Just as Owondlo closes door, fish snap at him)

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### KING NEPTUNE.

Owondlo be brave  
Seek ye a weapon,  
Be brave, be brave.

### OWONDLO.

Those fish that are so bold,  
With yet no weapon for defense,  
Make my thoughts aflame,  
While my blood runs cold.  
But on I will search,  
A weapon for defense.

(Owondlo spies five Sea Nymphs enjoying themselves; he hides and watches them)

### OWONDLO.

What now behold,  
This merry feast.  
They laugh, they sing,  
They joke in secret,  
Ten thousand ways untold.  
Ha! ha! They smack their lips  
And dine on sea currants,  
From Nature's hidden garden.

(1st Sea Nymph walks proudly about)

### OWONDLO.

How fair she is?  
This wondrous beauty.

(3rd Sea Nymph, combing sea weeds apart)

### OWONDLO.

Quite stunning indeed.

### 2ND SEA NYMPH.

Listen! Hush!  
Be not so loud.  
The sea life here  
Can hear our sounds  
For many miles around.

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

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OWONDLO.

I'm almost tempted  
To go within.

3RD SEA NYMPH.

No one has ever ventured within.

4TH SEA NYMPH.

And who could come within?

5TH SEA NYMPH.

Unless by magic.

FIVE SEA NYMPHS.

The sea, the sea,  
That in magic sways,  
Has thousands of tales untold.  
Where plant life invites one  
To reap its fruit,  
And, then quickly betrays.

OWONDLO.

I'll be careful now what kind.

(1st Sea Nymph brings in an armful of sea weeds, plants and golden chains)  
(Loud rumbling noise is heard)

2ND SEA NYMPH.

Make haste, hurry in,  
You hear that noise?

3RD SEA NYMPH.

'Tis perhaps the ghosts are feasting  
In the Garden of Magic Gods.

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

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4TH SEA NYMPH.

No! some monster fish  
I've seen before,  
That measures in length  
Two miles or more.

5TH SEA NYMPH.

Ha! Ha! you silly fool.

2ND SEA NYMPH.

Listen! you can hear  
His teeth are grinding.

OWONDLO.

(Nervous)

I hope he's not so near.  
I'm nervous, I'm nervous.  
I wish I had a sword or spear.

(Sea Nymphs are not nervous and are making sea dresses; about them lay golden chains, gold rings and diamond rings.)

4TH SEA NYMPH.

How do you like this shape?

OWONDLO.

So nice and plump, you'll do,  
I'll fall in love with you.

3RD SEA NYMPH.

(Examining dress)

It's odd indeed.

4TH SEA NYMPH.

Made of golden chains.

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

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### 1ST SEA NYMPH.

I'm afraid to wear that dress.  
Those treacherous, sly gold fish  
Will soon spy around this place,  
And eat a fancy dish.

### OWONDLO.

Great Heavens, those chains of gold,  
Which once were owned  
By many hundred souls.

### 4TH SEA NYMPH.

Say not such nonsense.  
I'll wear this dress,  
Perhaps the sea by magic  
Will bring for me a lover.

### 2ND SEA NYMPH.

(She slips on her dress; Owondlo dances around in joy and stretches his neck to see)

Behold my dress,  
Spun from sea weed.  
Glistens with dazzling pebbles  
And golden rings.

### OWONDLO.

(Aria)

Ah! embroidered with diamonds!  
Of all Nature's creatures,  
These Nymphs are bold.  
They entered the staterooms,  
In search of diamonds and gold.  
If I could win those Nymphs  
To be my wives,  
I would try and coax them  
To flee with me,  
To the upper world,  
To keep them for  
My enchanted brides.



## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### 3RD SEA NYMPH.

If you really expect  
To win a lover,  
Just leave one sparkling ring  
On the Magic Table Rock,  
In Nature's Garden;  
Perchance good luck will bring.

### 5TH SEA NYMPH.

Just leave a dazzling pebble.

### 4TH SEA NYMPH.

(Leaves and goes to the Magic Table Rock and places there a diamond ring. A loud rumbling noise is heard again. Owondlo hurries to a nearby stateroom.)

### ALL SEA NYMPHS.

Great magic, that monster fish perhaps?

### 1ST SEA NYMPH.

Hurry, he's coming this way.

### 4TH SEA NYMPH.

Is it true? what say ye,  
A lover is coming for me.

### 5TH SEA NYMPH.

(Nymphs all hide)

No! no! that monster fish.

### MAJOR BOOTH.

(Ghost appears)

What seekest thou?

### OWONDLO.

A weapon for defense,  
From dangers of the sea.

# MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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MAJOR BOOTH.

You are quite right.  
Let good wishes be  
Bestowed upon you by our Lord.  
Here! I loan you my sword.

OWONDLO.

I thank you.  
I must begone.  
Adieu, Adieu, Adieu.

## Act I — Scene 2.

(Garden of the Gods)

(Owondlo enters the Magic Garden of the Gods, looks around mysteriously)

OWONDLO.

How queer, how strange,  
Some silly fool  
Had wished to feed  
The Gods in the Garden,  
On Petrified currants,  
Fossil and toad-stool.

---

OWONDLO.

(Pauses and gazes at the Gods)

Perhaps a Sea Nymph—  
(Pauses)  
Perhaps some ghost—  
(Pauses)  
Perhaps a gold fish—  
(Pauses)  
Perhaps some beast.  
All likely enjoyed  
A bountiful feast.

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### OWONDLO.

(Loud rumbling noise. Puts ring on his finger. Owondlo is nervous. Fish comes with mouth open.)

Ah! that diamond ring,  
That noise, some fish!  
Behold! 'tis a fish.  
Just let him come this way.  
I will prepare to slay.  
Great magic! One good stroke.

(Mermaid issues out of place where Owondlo struck his sword)

(For a short time Owondlo is dumfounded)

(He soon seizes the Mermaid in his arms)

### NEPTUNE.

(Appears with scepter in hand)

I name thee Fleehion.  
Thrice blessed art thou,  
The rarest daughter  
Of my Kingdom.  
Owondlo! thou shalt have thy ways  
Protect her from all enemies.

End of Act I.

# MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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## Act II — Scene 1.

(Duet)

(Fifteen years later)

(In the Submarine Garden. Rocks and ancient sea shell castles shine with bright colors. There are twenty children, Mermen and Mermaids, playing games and feasting.)

FLEEHIION.

Owondlo thou hast charms  
To 'witch the sea life.  
For all these years  
I've been thy faithful wife.  
Thou hast protected us  
From countless dangers thus,  
And yet thou no one harms.  
Whil'st caves and sunken vessels  
Have been our homes of pleasure,  
I fancy now some curious Nymph  
Prowling round the vessel's treasure.

OWONDLO.

What sayeth thou?  
I've seen no Nymphs around  
Not since I spied them  
Before I severed the fish  
With the sword I loaned.  
Brought you to life  
For my companion.

FLEEHIION.

(Mermen and Mermaids in frolic)

Perhaps no danger will come.

OWONDLO.

Who knows the mystery of the sea?

FLEEHIION.

Perhaps King Neptune!

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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OWONDLO.

Neptune is a goodly King,  
And spies round on all new things.  
He has the power, perhaps,  
Over new life the sea brings.

FLEEHIION.

Let us search the treasure vault.

OWONDLO.

All the sunken vessels  
That we have entered thus,  
I've locked the doors  
Of the treasure vaults.  
Behold these fish  
That were once so bold,  
Have almost lost their color of gold.  
Their magic power seems vanished.  
Their greed for gold forever banished.

FLEEHIION.

Thou hast indeed worked wonders.  
Behold the oval sea plant  
That shines in colors rare,  
Reflects from ancient red shell castles,  
Appears quite calm and fair,  
It's lovely fruit that round it creep,  
I shall enter and thus reap.

OWONDLO.

Fleehion, do not enter.  
'Tis a magic tree that quickly betrays.  
Once more I shall sever  
Another luring enemy.

(Owondlo severs the plant below, and rescues Fleehion in the nick of time, and carries her to their sea shell boat, which is tied to a sea plant, called sea plant rope, Fleehion revives fainting spell. Other sea plants and sea flowers vibrate, weeping and causing a great commotion of the waters. The sea flowers' heads are drooped. Curious fish swim about their boat and gnaw the sea plant rope apart. Then their boat drifts in a sea current and hurries away.)

(Owondlo and Fleehion passed through a submarine river through a mountain into "The Vapor World." They anchor their boat. Here they are enraptured with enchantment, of beautiful colors, etc. They meet King Reignall, the Supreme Ruler of "The Vapor World.")

(Spirits)

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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Scene 2.—In the Vapor World.

KING REIGNALL.

(Supreme Ruler of spirits)

I am King Reignall.  
How came you here?  
What seekest thou?  
No living mortal  
From the lower world,  
Has ever entered this sacred sphere.  
Now tell me, what is your object here?

OWONDLO.

Oh wondrous King Reignall,  
'Twas with a monster ship  
That we had sunk  
To the depths of ocean life,  
Where curious fish had lain await,  
And swallowed us for bait.

OWONDLO AND FLEEHIION.

Yes, swallowed us for bait,  
After a lapse of time  
We were transformed.  
Perhaps by magic,  
Perhaps by magic,  
Behold our tails  
And water breathing gills.

KING REIGNALL.

Quite strange indeed.

OWONDLO.

'Twas with enemies I fought  
With my trusty sword,  
That severed a fish  
And brought to life  
This beautiful Mermaid,  
Who I proclaimed my wife.

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### OWONDLO AND FLEEHIION.

In caves we dwelt;  
On sea plants we feasted.  
'Twas in a river  
That our sea shell boat  
Had chosen a course.  
Through Nature's currents  
That brought us here  
In this beautiful sphere.

### KING REIGNALL.

I forbade you here  
In this sacred sphere.  
I'll summon my Spiritual Staff.

(Horns and bugle calls)

### SPIRITUAL STAFF.

How strange, King Reignall?  
These curious beings here  
Have come to take possession,  
While we spiritualists  
Never dreamt so far  
That living mortals could appear.  
'Tis wise we judge  
To lead them on  
Into our Spiritual Dungeon.

### CHORUS OF SPIRITS.

Lead on, lead on, lead on.  
To our Spiritual Dungeon  
May thy spirits be banished forever.  
Lead on, lead on, lead on,

(Shifting rolling scenery as all move slowly)  
(Owondlo and Fleehion rest in Dungeon)  
(King Reignall and spirits leave)

### OWONDLO.

The spirits have vanished.  
And all is still.

(The Spiritual Dungeon is made of heavy vapor; its appearance is like a mysterious castle. The vapor is just strong enough to hold Owondlo and Fleehion.)

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### OWONDLO AND FLEEHIION.

Great magic in this Sacred World.  
We're taken in a Spiritual Dungeon.  
May God appear, they forbade us here.  
It's a holy place, we fear.  
What beautiful sounds,  
What beautiful colors,  
Hath this Vapor World of enchantment;  
Quite strange, we crave no hunger,  
Oh, King Reignall, cans't thou hear,  
Grant us one wish:  
Bring our parents near.

(Owondlo and Fleezion doze off in sleep)

### THEIR PARENTS.

(Spirits)

'Great wonder of wonders,  
Our children do we see.

### MALE PARENTS.

What! In the Spiritual Dungeon?

### THEIR PARENTS.

Let us awaken them  
Before King Reignall has time  
To condemn them, perhaps,  
Into eternity sublime.

### ONE MALE PARENT.

Hush! be quiet, be careful for the King.

### OTHER MALE PARENT.

Quite so, for in this holy place  
The King does hear.  
No secret can be made  
In this sacred sphere.



## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### ONE PARENT.

(Soprano)

Bosh, bosh, nonsense,  
In this spiritual world  
We cannot be deceived.

### ONE PARENT.

(Contralto)

Quite right art thou.  
(Owondlo and Fleezion awaken)

### OWONDLO.

Dear Fleezion, I dreamt I heard familiar voices.

### FLEEZION.

'Tis perhaps an illusion  
Or joyful dream.  
Perhaps the spirits  
Had gathered around  
Planning their secrets.

(Owondlo and Fleezion are amazed; they see their parents [spirits] through an opening in the vapor walls. All stare at each other as if dumfounded.)

### THEIR PARENTS.

My son, my daughter,  
How came you here?

### OWONDLO AND FLEEZION.

Through a ship that sunk  
To the ocean's bed,  
Where curious fish  
Had lain await  
And swallowed us for bait.  
Yes swallowed us for bait.  
The almighty Creator  
Spared our life,  
Transformed us in  
The living sea.

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### THEIR PARENTS.

(All)

Oh wonder of wonders,  
Seems like an illusion.  
The almighty Creator  
Left thoughts unknown  
In this sacred world,  
For our comprehension.

### ONE PARENT.

(Soprano)

The King! the King!

### ONE PARENT.

(Male)

Fear not.

### KING REIGNALL.

(Comes with his Spirit Staff)

What seekest thou?  
Do you not know  
That I, King Reignall,  
Am supreme in this holy sphere?  
Condemn all spirits here.  
The Spirit Staff will take thee  
In the Spiritual Dungeon,  
Where supreme magic reigns.

### OWONDLO AND FLEEHIION.

King Reignall, thou hast the power.  
Spare these wishes  
That thou hast granted.  
Behold we are supreme  
In your sacred sphere.  
Thy walls we'll rent asunder,  
And destroy this dungeon,  
That the almighty Creator  
Formed in this spiritual place.

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(Owondlo and Fleeihion leave dungeon)

(The Almighty Creator God beckons Owondlo be careful)

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### KING REIGNALL.

Summon my army of Spirits.

(Trumpet calls)

(The army appears with weapons shaped like the planet Saturn which cast out balls of strong lights.)

I command you strangers  
Leave this sphere at once.  
Go whence you came.

### OWONDLO.

No! never, unless you release  
Our parents from within  
Your confounded dungeon.

### KING REIGNALL.

Charge on the enemy,  
Who came to molest us  
In this spiritual sphere.

(Rolling scenes, battle of spirits with Owondlo and Flechion; no harm is done; Owondlo and Flechion are immune. Mechanical reflections of various lights in appearance of human forms thrown about them.)

### KING REIGNALL.

(Aria)

How strange this mystery.  
Can it be  
That before me gazes  
The Almighty Supreme.  
Never I dreamt  
Of such disgrace  
That befell me  
In this spiritual place.  
Open the dungeon;  
Let the spirits come hither,  
I proclaim them sacred and free.

(The Almighty Creator "God" looks down from above as all sing praises of love. He warns Owondlo and Flechion to begone.)

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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### Finale. Act II.

(Chorus of whole Spiritual World.)

Blessed art thou, blessed art thou,  
Forever eternal bliss.  
May thy paths in fortune sparkle,  
And enemies their distance keep.  
Let thy life remain,  
In Nature's joys serene,  
For thy coming spirits  
Shall in peace forever sleep.

(Owondlo and Fleezion, who are now in their boat, start back to the Submarine World again.)

### OWONDLO AND FLEEZION.

Thrice blessed art thou,  
Thrice blessed art thou,  
For thy great prophecy.  
Thrice blessed art thou.  
Farewell, farewell, farewell.

(Chorus of whole Spiritual World waving star-shaped emblems reflecting with beautiful color.)

End of Act II.

# MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria)

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## *Epilogue.*

(The Submarine World)

OWONDLO.

Rise, behold dear Flechion,  
'Tis the Submarine World  
We have entered again.

FLEEHIION.

Blessed be our God.  
Come, let us pray,  
That the almighty Creator  
Hath spared our children's lives.

OWONDLO.

(Searches caves)

Not a sign of them.

(Pauses)

No not here.

FLEEHIION.

Let us call for them.

OWONDLO AND FLEEHIION.

(Aria)

Oh merciful God,  
Oh merciful God,  
We have vainly sought  
Our children in vain.  
Cans't thou give us  
One ray of hope.  
Thou hearest not,  
Thou seest not.  
Thou hidest from us.  
Thou hast not  
The power to return.  
Oh merciful God.

(Owondlo and Flechion, who are wearied and worried, die; in each other's arms they are embraced. At the entrance of cave where their children and grandchildren are within.)

## MERMAN AND MERMAID.

(Grand Operatic Phantasmagoria.)

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(Sea Nymphs appear. Each one carries a small horn.)

### FIVE SEA NYMPHS.

What mystery here behold?  
The sea in sleep had drowned  
These wandering, wearisome souls.  
Let's not molest them  
From peaceful slumber.  
How calm, how still,  
They do not breathe.  
Now our horns we'll sound,  
The sea will echo magic round.

(Trumpet and Horn calls)

(After the Nymphs have almost disappeared, Mermen and Mermaids arrive)

### MERMEN AND MERMAIDS.

(Double chorus)

Those sounds mysteriously  
Filled the sea with echoes.  
Perhaps may be our parents calling  
Or some mystery in the deep.  
Great wonders, behold here they are,  
Clothed in Nature's garments.  
How pale, how calm, their hearts beat not.  
Oh merciful God!  
The sea claimed their last sleep.

### MERMEN.

Those curious, wondrous Nymphs perhaps,  
In magic have entrapped  
Their souls to the Garden of the Gods.

### MERMEN AND MERMAIDS.

The sea, the sea that in magic sways,  
Has thousands of tales untold.  
Where enemies lay in wait,  
Betrays mysteries that never unfold.  
The sea, the sea, that in magic sways,  
The sea, the sea, that in magic sways,  
Has thousands of tales untold.  
Where enemies lay in wait,  
Betrays mysteries that never unfold.

(King Neptune blesses all)

(Mermen and Mermaids cover them with plants)

(End of Opera)

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